Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for creating a reference information database ~~task library~~ on a computer, comprising:

~~obtaining task data~~ simultaneously installing a component and its corresponding reference information on the computer for a plurality of components ~~installed on the computer~~, the plurality of components comprising a plurality of software applications,

wherein the ~~task data comprises~~ reference information is operative to assist a user in regard to a plurality of tasks implemented by the plurality of components,

wherein at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two of the plurality of components, and

wherein at least some of the reference information ~~task data~~ corresponding to the plurality of components is configured such that the corresponding component or components may be manipulated from within the reference information database ~~task library~~;

generating ~~task~~ links referencing the reference information ~~task data~~ for the plurality of components according to a predetermined schema; and

storing the reference information ~~task data~~ and the ~~task~~ links as the reference information database; ~~task library~~.

wherein the reference information database comprises a singular computer module.

2.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer further comprises at least one hardware device.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer further comprises at least one operating system component.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer further comprises at least one component operating on another computer.

7.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer are from a plurality of component providers.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the predetermined schema organizes the ~~task~~ links referencing the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ according to predetermined topics.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the predetermined schema organizes the ~~task~~ links referencing the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ according to an alphabetic ordering of ~~the~~ subject matter of the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~.

10.   (Canceled)

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ further comprises a plurality of tasks, and wherein each task corresponds to a particular topic relating to a corresponding component of the plurality of components.

12-24. (Canceled)

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory storing a <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~, the <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~ comprising:

~~task data~~ <u>reference information</u> for a plurality of components installed on the computer system, the plurality of components comprising a plurality of software applications,

wherein <u>each of the plurality of components is installed simultaneously with its respective reference information onto the computer system,</u>

wherein the ~~task data comprises~~ reference information <u>is operative</u> to assist a user in regard to a plurality of tasks implemented by the plurality of components installed on the computer <u>system</u>, and

wherein at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two of the plurality of components; and

task links referencing the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ of the plurality of components generated according to a defined schema.

26. (Previously Presented)   The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer system further comprises at least one hardware device.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented)   The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer system further comprises at least one operating system component.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented)   The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer system further comprises at least one component operating on another computer.

31. (Original)   The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the plurality of components installed on the computer system are from a plurality of component providers.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the predefined schema organizes the ~~task~~ links referencing the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ according to predefined topics.

33.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the predefined schema organizes the ~~task~~ links referencing the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ according to an alphabetic ordering of ~~the~~ subject matter of the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~.

34-35. (Canceled)

36.   (Currently Amended) The computer system of Claim 25, wherein the <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ comprises a task configured such that aspects of a corresponding component or components installed on the computer may be manipulated from within the <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~.

37-48. (Canceled)

49.   (Currently Amended) A method for executing a task relating to a first component on a computer without changing user context from a second component, the method comprising:

 retrieving ~~a plurality of~~ <u>reference information</u> ~~tasks~~ from a <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~, the <u>database</u> ~~task library~~ comprising a plurality of tasks implemented by a plurality of components installed on the computer,

 wherein the plurality of components comprises more than one software application, and

 wherein at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two of the plurality of components;

 displaying the retrieved <u>reference information</u> ~~tasks~~ to a user within the context of the second component;

detecting the user's selection of a displayed <u>reference information</u> <s>task</s>; and

executing an action associated with the selected <u>reference information</u> <s>task</s> and the first component without changing the user context from the second component.

50.   (Canceled)

51.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 49, wherein the plurality of components further comprises at least one hardware component.

52.   (Canceled)

53.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 49, wherein the plurality of components further comprises at least one operating system component.

54.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 49, wherein the <u>reference information</u> <s>tasks</s> in the <u>reference information database is</u> <s>task library are</s> organized according to a predefined schema.

55.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 49, wherein retrieving <u>reference information</u> <s>a plurality of tasks</s> from the <u>reference information database</u> <s>task library</s> further comprises retrieving the <u>reference information</u> <s>plurality of tasks</s> from the <u>reference information database</u> <s>task library</s> according to the second component's context.

56.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 49, wherein the retrieved reference information is ~~tasks are~~ displayed to a user according to a determined relevancy of the reference information ~~tasks~~.

57.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 56, wherein the retrieved reference information is ~~tasks are~~ displayed to a user according to a determined relevancy of the reference information ~~tasks~~, such that more relevant reference information is ~~tasks are~~ displayed more prominently to the user.

58.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 56, wherein the determined relevancy of the reference information ~~tasks~~ is determined according to a ~~the~~ frequency with which the user has previously selected the reference information ~~each task~~.

59.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 56, wherein the determined relevancy of the reference information ~~tasks~~ is determined according to a ~~the~~ frequency with which a plurality of users have previously selected the reference information ~~each task~~.

60.   (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 56, where the determined relevancy of the reference information ~~tasks~~ is determined according to computer state information.

61.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium bearing computer-readable instructions which, when executed, carry out a ~~the~~ method for creating a reference information database ~~task library~~ on a computer, the method comprising:

          ~~obtaining task data~~   simultaneously installing a component and its corresponding reference information on the computer for a plurality of

components ~~installed on a computer~~, the plurality of components comprising a plurality of software applications,

wherein the ~~task data comprises~~ reference information <u>is operative</u> to assist a user in regard to a plurality of tasks implemented by the plurality of components,

wherein at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two of the plurality of components, and

wherein <u>reference information</u> ~~task data~~ corresponding to at least one component of the plurality of components is configured such that the corresponding component or components may be manipulated from within the <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~;

~~storing the task data in a task library;~~

generating ~~task~~ links referencing the <u>reference information for</u> ~~task data of~~ the plurality of components according to a predetermined schema; and

storing the <u>reference information and the links as</u> ~~task links with~~ the <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~.

62.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium bearing computer-readable instructions which, when executed, carry out a method for executing a task relating to a first component on a computer without changing user context from a second component, the method comprising:

retrieving <u>reference information</u> ~~a plurality of tasks~~ from a <u>reference information database</u> ~~task library~~, the <u>database</u> ~~task library~~ comprising a plurality of tasks implemented by a plurality of components installed on the computer,

wherein the plurality of components comprises more than one software application, and

wherein at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two of the plurality of components;

displaying the retrieved <u>reference information</u> ~~tasks~~ to a user within the context of the second component;

detecting the user's selection of a displayed <u>reference information</u> ~~task~~; and

executing an action associated with the selected <u>reference information</u> ~~task~~ and the first component without changing the user context from the second component.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two software applications.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least one software application and one hardware device.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 25, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two software applications.

66. (Previously Presented)   The system of Claim 26, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least one software application and one hardware device.

67. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 49, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least two software applications.

68. (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 51, wherein the at least one task of the plurality of tasks is collectively implemented by at least one software application and one hardware device.